

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 25, 2022 5:23 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

All you guys care about is money you have no regards for the animals or the people you over hunt everything and you need to return to thinking about the family hunting and stop adding more hunts to the already over hunted wildlife

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

My primary concern is the animal health during the winter. Extended archery hunts stretching into December is too much for the animals. Bulls are tired from the rut and avoiding hunters and then when the first big snow comes they need to be focusing on survival from the elements and not from hunters. I've seen bulls living on cliffs on north slopes at 8000ft until mid December when it is finally safe to come to winter habitat. I feel that winter hunts are unhealthy for the next year's harvest as it increases risk of winter kills and wasted meat later on. Cow elk hunts span until the end of January where I've seen hunters park their car on the side of the freeway after locating a big winter herd and within a few minutes of distancing themselves from the road pick out a cow and send the herd running through deep snow for miles during some of the coldest, most dangerous winter days. Im a fan of hunting, just not chasing the animals all winter and then blaming winter kill on shed hunters. Hunting season should not span from August until the End of January. As a new plan is put in place, I hope some of the newly proposed extended archery(Dec) hunts and traditional cow elk winter hunts will be reconsidered.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 25, 2022 6:22 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** Good change for youth hunters and like the idea of high uinta muzzleloader during the rut.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** Electronics on archery only helps with decreasing wounded animals, similar to using a range finder, so I'm glad to see they have not been restricted

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I think offering hams, restricted or late archery tags is a great option for units over the 40% bull ratio. Spike elk hunting on limited entry is not the correct way to use these bull numbers. Use these bull heavy units to help reduce point creep. Many units will be considered over objective if you lower the objectives by one year like proposed. So use these extra tags on the less successful hunt options stated above and reduce more creep per animal killed. (More opportunity + less points holders = Even more opportunity)

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the once-in-a-lifetime hunt proposals?** I strongly agree with the additional book cliffs bison hunt. I encountered large herds while hunting elk this year and large areas were absolutely devastated from vegetation. Bison seem to be doing extremely well

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** I strongly agree with the additional items and late season archery tags to help with points creep

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Somewhat disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** I feel your restricting too much with the no technology on weapons. Mainly on archery and rifles. I think with these restrictions especially archery that no would be able to get a kill as well as they do now.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Where is the wildlife resource management? This sounds like funding increase management. I know the demand for hunting has went up, but that doesnt mean the elk numbers have too. Stop pushing unlimited hunts. Its not popular but its resource management. All hunters want opportunities but I guarantee all hunters also rather have a quality hunt. Lets break this down.

- the south slope is over hunted.

-elk dont even bugle due to the pressure.

- taking away LE such as ninemile anthro only decreases areas for a quality hunts.

-A spike that lives today is a trophy tomorrow.

Thats common sense hunting. If your going to do what you want without really caring for the resource then at least consider limiting tags on general units. So what if you only hunt every other year. Other ideas is make the areas you want to move to GS into a smaller point hunts. Where 2 or 3 points guarantees you a tag. Dont put tag limits on them, rather just make it where you have to have at least 2 or 3 points to draw. This give dedicated hunters an area that maybe a better hunt. Similar to your deer hunts, but only in certain areas.

Every comment I saw on social media says make it better for residents. When that truely means decrease hunters so theres a chance to actually hunt without too many people around tearing up the land.

And quit giving money to private land owners for wildlife depredations if they dont allow more opportunities for the public to hunt. Make it better for public to get cwmu hunts. Make it like 3/1. Punish land owners that herd elk onto there land. I have personally seen it all over on the south slope unit.

A true lottery system would also get rid of point creep.

There is so much more.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 25, 2022 9:05 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** 5 day hunts suck make 2, 9 day hunts back to back and 3rd real late season rifle hunt that starts mid-late November like other states

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

For many Years I know of the vast majority of Elk LE Archery Hunts that have pleaded with the Big Game offices to extend the LE Archery Elk dates thru the end of September..... And never has there been any response. I find it hard to believe "Public Opinion" has been heard but this has never been addressed. Push all rifle and Muzzle Loader dates into October. The outfitters will have to become better guides, yes, but that's what their clients pay them for. To put a gun in their hands in the PEAK of the rut is awful.

I hope that Utah will finally follow suite with every other state on the Archery Elk seasons BOTH for OTC and LE thru end of September.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 26, 2022 9:25 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** You all ruined the hunts since 2003. Everything you do has over crowded and ruined the populations. Leave it alone and get life

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Your just splitting the seasons and capping the first week to get more ten dollar fees. We all know it

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** We have the right to hunt with any weapon set for us. Go back to California and wyit catering to the private land trust

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

I pretty much agree with most of the proposal.

-I would like to see Spike archery hunters have to start on Aug. 23rd the same day LE archery bull hunters start. It seems pretty unfair to let spike hunters pressure the elk herds for 4 days before a guy that waited years to draw his limited entry tag.

-I would also recommend only allowing multi season general bull hunters to be able to hunt the late season I think that would help with crowding issues on the early hunt and give the guys a little better hunt that only purchase a the rifle only tag.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Please do not change general-season archery to a bull-only hunt. The archery hunt is hard enough as it is, especially with the changes brought about by the multi-season tag. Allow me to address the multi-season tag first.

The multi-season tag has nearly ruined the archery hunt. Prior to the multi-season tag, an archer could enjoy great opportunity and quality in the archery hunt. But since the advent of the multi-season tag, the quality of the archery hunt has plummeted due to the increased numbers of hunters in the field. Many of these additional hunters do not know much about archery hunting so they are ruining the archery hunt for the true archers. This multi-season tag has been a real frustration for me and several of my archery hunting friends. Please consider removing the multi-season tag. I understand that the multi-season tag is popular and that it is a great revenue-generator, but it is ruining the archery hunt.

Back to my initial point, the archery hunt is hard enough without taking away the ability to shoot a cow. Simply by choosing archery, a hunter is taking a serious risk that he may not harvest an animal for several years in a row due to the challenges of archery hunting elk. Due to these challenges, most archery hunters are just as pleased with harvesting a cow as a bull. Please do not compound the challenges of archery hunting by removing the opportunity to harvest a cow. I recognize that the proposal includes antlerless archery tags, but what does that do to the true archer? It forces him to pay twice as much money for the same opportunity that he previously had. The archery hunt has been changed enough already (through multi-season tag, restricting cameras, baiting, etc.). Please do not add this change. Archery hunters will be very frustrated. Thank you for your consideration!

If you would like to contact me personally about any of these concerns, please feel free to do so.

Thank you for your consideration!

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 27, 2022 10:34 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I believe and have always believed that multi season permits were a bad idea it takes away opportunities for other hunters to participate and increases success rates if not kept in check this could do serious harm for every multi season tag you reduce the potential for 2 tags

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 28, 2022 9:22 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I don't like archery hunt going to "bull only". Archery already is the most difficult hunts and the opportunities are slim to none. We know as archery hunters that our odds are very slim, 10-15% chance of filling our tag, and that is with shooting at Either sex.. Please don't decrease the odds further. I feel archery hunters should be able to kill Either Sex, bull or a cow. Please keep Either Sex for archery hunters. Thank you.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I strongly appose changing the general archery tag to a bull only tag. This hunt is already very difficult with very low hunter success. Removing the antlerless option makes this permit useless to me and many other nonresidents paying a large amount of money for near zero hunt odds. I will no longer spend my money in Utah on this tag if this change is implemented. It will be a huge revenue loss to the state.

The muzzleloader restrictions go too far. Modern muzzleloaders should still be allowed incl the use of 209 primers. Elimination of scopes would be sufficient to significantly reduce hunter shooting distance and hunter success.

Archery equipment is already difficult to use and should not be further restricted to primitive style bows only. This is unnecessary and eliminates almost all archery hunters.

The general any bull any legal weapon hunts are already over hunter and I strongly oppose splitting the season into two heavily hunted seasons. This will further degrade a hunt that is already low quality and low success. The increased demand is due to multi season tags which should be eliminated to reduce hunter numbers and overcrowding. Having 15k tags over a short period of 7 days will be a horrible hunting experience and not worth purchasing for nonresident high prices. An unlimited late season is a terrible idea and is just a money maker with no regard to elk hunting quality and experience. This will result in extremely low hunter success and extremely low hunter satisfaction.

5 days is too short for a limited entry early rifle elk tag. These are pretty much once in a lifetime tags and the committee is trying to make them much less enjoyable and successful.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I agree that no additional technology restrictions are warranted

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I strongly appose changing the general archery tag to a bull only tag. This hunt is already very difficult with very low hunter success. Removing the antlerless option makes this permit useless to me and many other nonresidents paying a large amount of money for near zero hunt odds. I will no longer spend my money in Utah on this tag if this change is implemented. It will be a huge revenue loss to the state.

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The general any bull any legal weapon hunts are already over hunter and I strongly oppose splitting the season into two heavily hunted seasons. This will further degrade a hunt that is already low quality and low success. The increased demand is due to multi season tags which should be eliminated to reduce hunter numbers and overcrowding. Having 15k tags over a short period of 7 days will be a horrible hunting experience and not worth purchasing for nonresident high prices. An unlimited late season is a terrible idea and is just a money maker with no regard to elk hunting quality and experience. This will result in extremely low hunter success and extremely low hunter satisfaction.

5 days is too short for a limited entry early rifle elk tag. These are pretty much once in a lifetime tags and the committee is trying to make them much less enjoyable and successful.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I agree that no additional technology restrictions are warranted

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 28, 2022 9:06 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

It is unreasonable to change the general season weapons from rifle with a scope to open sight. I agree with taking away scopes on muzzleloaders of course, you guys were dumb to ever allow them it basically became another rifle hunt. Archery should still allow compound bows but get rid of the attached range finders and ████ like that. Keep them basic but allow compound bows.

Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
October 29, 2022 4:37 pm

**Which best describes your position** Strongly disagree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I really hope you guys can put some of these comments into some real consideration. First off I understand many of your concerns but first off I simple disagree in upping the number of tags across the board. I don't think upping the number of tags solves any problems. If we look at limited entry units I personally believe they have all went down hill in the last year for a few reasons. First being spike and cow hunters. I have been on several limited entry elk hunts with friends family etc, and the number of cow and spike hunters competing is unreal to me. I get checks and balances need to be taken into effect but I feel there is way to may spike tags allocated across the board and I believe we have and are going to continue to see bull numbers drop if this isn't fixed. You can kill all the yearling bulls and expect to see healthy heards. Look at the book cliffs it Inez to be an unreal unit and I believe a lot of the reason it went down hill is because we as Utahns are taking WAY to many spikes out of all elk units. The second concern I see in limited entry and general bull by raising tags is this. Everyone expects to wait 10-25+ years to draw a limited entry tag. To keep the highest class of animals we can I think raising the number of tags is absurd. Why are we killing out all our elk when Utah is known for trophy elk hunting? The DWR is making this decision not to help the hunters? Raising the general permits to unlimited is straight crazy. The last 5 years the mountain has been a zoo during elk season and the number of elk being seen and killed by hunters is getting lower and lower yet you still want to just add an unlimited number of tags? That is just non sense. I know for the DWR there is a money aspect and I understand 100% that the research and studies done are expensive and I understand that some of the reasons your upping tags is to help with that but let's not be dumb about this. If this plan doesn't get stopped there won't be any elk left in 10 years let alone a mature bull to kill. Utah is known as one of the best states to kill mature general unit bulls but with this plan it will RUIN every bit of it.

I think there a few different ways that I really hope could be considered by someone who's invested in the DWR that's not just trying to make a bunch more money and just cares what people that actually hunt think. 1 I think there's other ways to make your money in different ways than screwing all the avid hunters out there. Up the price of tags. Now your probably gonna laugh but for real everyone I know that hunts would and will pay 20-40 MORE dollars per tag elk and deer combined they would pay double for a tag and not complain one bit. Look we're both happy. Another thing to make up a lot of extra money is make EVERYTHING a draw and charge 25 bucks or a set amount just to put in weather or not you draw or not. People who actually wanna hunt won't mind a bit. Plus it makes both us and you happy because we get to chase higher quality animals by not making unlimited tags and you guys make a bunch more money. Now your probably wondering what do we do with the people who can/won't necessarily buy a more expensive tag? In my opinion here's the best thing. Make your cow and spike tags the same price as they are now. Keep your management hunts the way they are for the families to can't spend 150 on a tag. And even open specific management hunts for those kind of people. It makes everyone happy really minus a few but atleast there's still animals for everyone to kill instead of making it impossible to even see an elk cause

there's so many people.

My next big problem with this 10 year plan is I saw nothing about out of state hunters?? Utah has to cut back on general out of state elk permits. For an example I hunt the high country on horses mainly. All growing up I can remember maybe once running into an out of state person. Now that's all you see is out of state guys. Come on DWR. Up the price of out of state like every other state and cut there tags this is bull crap for all of us in state guys? We've got to do something out this it's an issue.

And my last is guides. If your going to make it an unlimited hunt you have to cut guides out of general public land. Guides are going to make 3x as much money and bringing TONS of people into the spots we're hunting. I already see it and it's hurt many areas so why hasn't this been taken into consideration? I don't think guides should even be able to guide general public land?! Please make this a topic of discussion. Atleast consider making guides only being able to guide on private land or limited entry only. It's killing our general unit for elk and deer!

What it really comes down to for me is if we keep managing our heards this poor our future generations won't be able to do this in there back yard like we can. They'll have to spend thousands to go hunt a state that was actually smart about how they managed their heards.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Somewhat disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Just please make it so all of us that have waited 10 to 25 years for the tag don't have to compete with spike and cow hunters for the duration of our hunt it pushes all of the big balls were chasing in the harder and harder places to find them and I think that it's bull crap. Work with us please!!!

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I don't understand by unlimiting the tags it's going to help the elk count and get more mature bulls? How are they going to be able to get more mature bulls if there's no elk left? . The mountains are already a zoo with all your out of state tags. I don't agree with this at all. Think it's all a way to get more money. Sounds like you guys don't even care about the head count of the elk. What about the people that's been putting in points for twenty to thirty years on limited entry units if youth can just buy them? You going to return money back? Upping spike tags is only going to decline the number of mature bulls in the limited units.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I appreciate the Elk Committee and DWR's efforts in revising the elk plan. It is no small undertaking. Thank you for your work!

I have made a few suggestions in order to more closely follow the goals of the elk committee and DWR of providing more opportunity for elk hunting while maintaining quality hunting opportunities. I suggest the following:

- Alternate opening hunt dates of the mid-season elk tag and general spike tags. Delay the start of the general season ALW spike hunt by one week to give mid-season hunters an opportunity at a quality experience without several hundred to a thousand individuals chasing and pressuring the same species on the mountain. The general spike hunters would still be allowed two weeks, but would overlap the general deer on the second week and the mid-season limited entry bull on the first week.
  - If the goal is to lower success rates and increase opportunities, then one option is to give more limited entry mid tags and delay spike elk hunters one week. This would maintain quality experience and increase pressure and decrease success.
  - Depending on which studies you read, a significant percentage of elk breed the first week to week and a half of October. Maintaining a sanctuary time period would be paramount in my mind to allow for the reproduction of elk without so much pressure.
  - Delay general ALW any bull elk tags one week to start close to Oct. 15. You can then give out a few limited entry tags on general units the week of Oct. 7 on general units.
  - Create a separate pool of tags for general season any bull elk hunters. It's late season so the logic applied to the unlimited rifle tags should apply to the general season muzzleloader any bull season.
  - put a quota on non-resident general elk tags through a draw
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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I want to take time and thank the Elk committee for taking the time and coming up with a great proposal, Adding those GS units will defiantly help with over crowding out here in the basin.

Their is only one thing i can see to make it just a little better.

I think the Muzzloader Elk hunt should be before any rifle hunt GS/LE. I feel we could easily put the Muzzloader Anybull hunt where the 1st rifle hunt is, then we could Have the 1st season rifle hunt then put the second season rifle hunt during the Rifle deer hunt just a thought.

One other thing ladder tree stands are getting out of control I have 40 of them marked on south slope on Onx. I have sent some of the location to our local officer with pictures because they have mineral blocks set up on them. They are leaving them up year round and people are starting to think they have entitlement to those areas.

Other than that you guys are are doing a wonderful job thank you.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 1, 2022 2:34 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**

I strongly disagree with a spring of 2023 archery antlerless Elk Hunt. I thought the purpose of having an antler gathering permit in the spring was to limit the time people spend in the field in the animal's habitat because of the stress people put on the animals in the field. After recovering from winter along with cow elk Pregnant with calves, archery hunting them would be very stressful.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 1, 2022 3:23 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I have hunted with traditional blackpowder muzzleloaders since the hunt in 1976 on the Boulder unit. I have hunted with Flintlock only for the last 20 years. With the current muzzleloading season, I am very much at a disadvantage when trying to hunt. I strongly agree with the proposal for primitive weapon regulations and urge the RAC's and the Wildlife Board to implement primitive hunt areas this coming season. I would further suggest that the late Muzzleloader season in November be restricted to Primitive muzzleloaders only. Two exceptional areas for primitive weapons would be the Boulder Plateau unit and the Pinevalley unit in the SW corner of the state. Urge you to approve the primitive proposals and implement them in as many areas as possible. Jim McConnell, Cedar City Utah.  
harley.jmc@gmail.com

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

This management plan is not even close to being called management. Season dates, changes, two different seasons/weeks. Having Unlimited permits for youth AND the second week is RIDICULOUS. I'd rather have a draw system than have UNLIMITED permits in any general season Elk hunt. So my recommendation would be keep giving 15,000 any bull and 15,000 spike only permits and 15,000 YOUTH permits for either spike or any bull. THOSE WHO "WANT" ELK PERMITS WILL GET IN LINE OR ONLINE TO PURCHASE THEIR PERMITS, THAT IS THEIR "OPPORTUNITY." UNLIMITED tag suggestion is ASININE!! KEEP THE SAME THING WE'VE BEEN DOING. It's not about opportunity, its about management and having elk to hunt. PLEASE DO NOT Change the General season elk seasons or have two different rifle weeks. OR unlimited tags PERIOD for youth OR second week. I hunted the full season for rifle any bull this year and there is not enough elk for your "OPPORTUNITY" recommendation. You will ruin the elk herds and wildlife and the landscape if you do so. PLEASE KEEP THE SAME SEASON DATED AND NUMBERS FOR GENERAL SPIKE AND GENERAL ANY BULL AND LOWER THE QUOTA FOR YOUTH TO 15,000 INSTEAD OF UNLIMITED.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

This management plan is not even close to being called management. Season dates, changes, two different seasons/weeks. Having Unlimited permits for youth AND the second week is RIDICULOUS. I'd rather have a draw system than have UNLIMITED permits in any general season Elk hunt. So my recommendation would be keep giving 15,000 any bull and 15,000 spike only permits and 15,000 YOUTH permits for either spike or any bull. THOSE WHO "WANT" ELK PERMITS WILL GET IN LINE OR ONLINE TO PURCHASE THEIR PERMITS, THAT IS THEIR "OPPORTUNITY." UNLIMITED tag suggestion is ASININE!! KEEP THE SAME THING WE'VE BEEN DOING. It's not about opportunity, its about management and having elk to hunt. PLEASE DO NOT Change the General season elk seasons or have two different rifle weeks. OR unlimited tags PERIOD for youth OR second week. I hunted the full season for rifle any bull this year and there is not enough elk for your "OPPORTUNITY" recommendation. You will ruin the elk herds and wildlife and the landscape if you do so. PLEASE KEEP THE SAME SEASON DATED AND NUMBERS FOR GENERAL SPIKE AND GENERAL ANY BULL AND LOWER THE QUOTA FOR YOUTH TO 15,000 INSTEAD OF UNLIMITED.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I applaud the Division, RAC, and Wildlife Board for their ongoing work. LE bull elk tags are very popular in Utah. The more tags that can be issued the better. I agree with less days for Early rifle LE bull elk hunts. Thank you for listening to the hunters that submitted feedback from the survey.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I believe to help keep residents and non residents happy and craving Utah elk tags we need to keep the quality of the elk. Everyone wants a chance at a mature bull. It would be wise to keep the public happy and if they are generally happy with more opportunities then I believe it would be wise to allow those opportunities to not be encumbered by having a ridiculous amount of hunters going after the same species at the same time. I would then change the general spike hunt dates to a different time. It would significantly reduce the quality of the hunt for people who don't like to compete for animals with others and I also believe you'd have less unethical behavior and treatment from hunter to hunter. I don't believe the board understands that the outdoors becomes significantly over crowded during some of these hunts and having another hunt laced over the same time would make this crazy. I seriously hope the state gives some thought to moving the dates proposed for the spike hunt to keep the public happy with one of the biggest attractions the state has...the bull elk hunt.

Sincerely,

Nicole Nielson

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Dear RAC Members,

I am writing these comments in opposition to the proposed changes to Administrative Rule R657-5 as recommended by the DWR Technology Committee.

First I would like to commend you and the DWR for creating the HAMS Elk Hunt on the Barney Top. I had the opportunity to participate in that hunt this year with a relative who drew the tag. It is a challenging area and a very challenging hunt which is awesome, and I think it is exactly what you had in mind when you created it. I also understand this hunt strategy was also intended to help reduce point creep for limited entry elk hunting.

In my opinion this hunt should remain the way it is with no further weapon restrictions for the following reasons.

- a. It is already a challenging enough hunt with the current restrictions. I would assume the success ratio is fairly low especially for a good bull.
- b. The current restrictions will be more effective in reducing point creep because the proposed restrictions cater to a very limited and select group of hunters. Those hunters could still hunt with those weapons on a HAMS hunt without an unfair advantage.
- c. The new restrictions could result in a greater number of wounded animals and possibly multiple wounded animals from a single hunter with the extended season dates.

The HAMS hunt with the current restrictions is a new hunt and recommend that you wait a few more years before you consider making further changes to such a new hunt.

Thank you for your service and your commitment to the RAC process. We are lucky to live in such a great State with so many hunting opportunities.

Sincerely,

Dave Black

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

Because of the limited amount of available elk permits we have been allowing over the past several years we were finally getting to a point where the harvest success was seeing an uptick. With allowing unlimited elk permits during the later season we are going to destroy all of the progress we have made by limiting the permits and letting the herd grow a bit. Everyone would like to have a tag every year and everyone would like to be successful but that's not possible if we truly consider ourselves conservationists and want to support elk as a "renewable resource".

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 5, 2022 10:02 am

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

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Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

Please pass the technology committee's proposal as presented by the division! It is a win-win! It preserves opportunities for hunters to use their modern gear while creating situations for primitive weapon use. If I were to make an amendment, I would define muzzleloaders as, "Only capable to be loaded from the muzzle, firing a patched round ball with loose powder by means of an external, side mounted ignition system".

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I strongly disagree with the following changes to any bull any legal weapon elk hunt. #1 making the any bull elk hunt that is currently a single hunt of 13 days into two separate hunts only 7 days long. #2 give out 15k tags for the first hunt in the first week. #3 give unlimited tags to the second hunt in the second week.

Here are my reasons to leave any bull elk any legal weapon hunt alone. First, this huge demand increase is a result of COVID as Dax Mangus mentioned in the presentation, in the past it took a couple months and now it takes hours to sell out of all elk tags. This is not a long term demand and we should not be drastically changing the elk hunts and Utah's elk strategy around this. Second, there are already too many people. Up by flaming gorge where I hunt you are required to drop your trailer before the hunt starts otherwise you are camping on the road. The proposed changes will make this much worse. Third, this hunt already has a very low success rate. In the Big Game Annual Report of 2020 under "Statewide elk harvest statistics, Utah 19761-2020" in 2020 only 4214 bull elk were taken in the general season harvest and there were 40102 hunters afield which is only a 10.5% success rate. Adding unlimited tags will only decrease the success rate in this hunt. Fourth, with 15k tags in the first hunt and unlimited tags in the second hunt we are increasing stress and pressure on the elk which I think will ultimately start the decline of our elk herd populations due to the thousands of hunters and elk not having safe places to rest except on private land. Then elk hunting will really be in a pickle when the herd numbers decline. Fifth, I believe there will be more conflicts with private landowners as there are no safe spots for the elk and well meaning elk hunters will take a not so good shot at an elk near the private/public boundaries and the wounded elk crosses over into private land.

Elk and other animals are a resource to be used and taken care of but it is a limited resource. Therefore, I object to any and all hunts where there are an unlimited number of tags that treat elk as an unlimited resource. The great American bison were once treated as an unlimited resource and as such were almost extinct. Let's make sure history does not repeat itself.

Please do not go forward with the changes to the any bull any weapon elk hunt. I do acknowledge there is more demand for elk hunting, though I think it's only temporary and short term and to solve this I would suggest we make the elk hunts where hunters are only eligible to do an elk hunt every 2 years. This will protect our elk more and still gives opportunity to all those who want to elk hunt every other year.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I think that there should 3-4 different seasons during the rifle hunt so as to split up the amount of hunters out in the field at one time. I think that one week of the 15k permits and then one week of unlimited will be very crowded as it currently is. Limiting tags or splitting up the hunters during the time will help. Archery however seems to be fine at the moment.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** I think that there should 3-4 different seasons during the rifle hunt so as to split up the amount of hunters out in the field at one time. I love the proposed archery changes in adding the challenging late season hunt and a spring hunt.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** I think ATV use should be limited somehow, its getting ridiculous how many dune buggies, 4 wheeler, and rhino's etc are out there during hunting seasons. Perhaps closing more ATV trails would help.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I am concerned with the proposed elk management plan for the following reasons.

1. Splitting the hunt into two one week hunts makes it so there is a shorted hunt period to participate in elk hunting.
2. By drastically increasing the number of elk tags (for the first week) will make the public hunting areas even more crowded and difficult to find camping spots let alone hunting spots.
3. By creating an unlimited number of elk tags (for the second week) will do nothing more than continue to decrease the elk herds and continue to make elk hunts, beginning next season and forward, even more difficult.

I don't believe that we need to make the general elk hunt as difficult to obtain a tag as our limited entry hunts, but I do have great concern in drastically increasing the general elk tag amounts. I say this as a relatively new hunter (5ish years) that has low hopes of actually acquiring enough limited entry points to participate in limited entry elk hunts, and wish to still have at least a chance of being successful in both participating in each general season elk hunt annually and being successful in harvesting an elk for myself occasionally.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 7, 2022 5:42 pm

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** I strongly disagree with these proposals!! I disagree with doing away with compound bows and doing away with modern muzzleloaders. It's crazy that u think you can just take away all of this.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Somewhat agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** I don't like reducing the any bull elk hunt to 7 days. I like being able to hunt for two weekends. At one point the proposal a few years ago was go unlimited with the current season structure and I liked that proposal. I know it wasn't approved but I still think it is better than this proposal.

I disagree with the Diamond mountain spike hunt. It just seems like the book cliffs spike hunt hasn't helped and doing this to Diamond seems like a bad idea. I think there should be more discretion on years the spike hunts are provided based on the survival rates of calves.

I like the additional opportunities for the limited entry elk units.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** I agree with dates and additional opportunities for the limited entry hunts.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly agree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** Adding new hunt types to provide more opportunity I like.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 8, 2022 9:13 am

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat disagree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

The one thing that really concerns me with this plan is the limited entry units that they are wanting to make general season. I am ok with increasing general tag numbers but i am not ok with making units such as Anthro a general season unit. I had the opportunity last year to hunt anthro archery elk and it was the best big game hunting experience I have ever had. I am 40 years old and had never killed a elk and i had the opportunity to harvest a great bull with my daughter and dad by my side and it only took 5 points to draw. I also hunted with a good friend last year on the hams hunt and he harvested a great bull. This year my 68 year old dad drew the archery and this was his first time hunting a limited entry elk tag and we had a blast but he did not fill his tag. With all the time i have spent on this unit in the last 2 years I can tell you that making this a archery only and hams hunt has helped the quality of animals. Experiences like this with the new proposal will be alot harder to come by. Drawing a limited entry elk unit will become a once in a lifetime tag and point creep will soar through the roof.

A few things I see with the suggestions of making limited entry hunts general

1- Point creep is going to go through the roof. I drew My first limited entry elk tag at 40 and I will propbally never draw another. My girls that have started hunting will never have the experience of hunting a limited entry unit.

2- More general units may spread out the hunting population for 1-2 years but after one year the anthro will be destroyed and you will have more of the unlimited tag holders on areas like the south slope.

3-I am not sure how the dwr plans to manage a heard of elk when you don't manage how many hunters will be hunting that elk heard. For example if you are trying to keep the anthro elk heard at a certain number but you make it a general and all of the uintah basin hunts it the firs year ( that is what will hapen) then all the branch antlered bulls are going to be killed or pushed onto tribal and you will have a hard time finding them the next year.

4-I think the multi season tags should be elimated or put into the draw program. I see the multi season tag as being a big problem with overcrowding and pressure on animals. There are so many people (I included) who buy this tag and use it to scout for a certian season. I know this is a money maker for the drw but make people pick a season. If you want to hunt 3 seasons make it a draw and put people through the point system.

Thanks for you time. Just wanted to make my voice heard that making more general units in my mind is not going to help hunters have a greater experience. The first year will be good but over crowded and then the elk heard in certain areas will suffer.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

The multi season hunt is allowing way too much time for hunters to harvest an animal and will decline elk numbers over time. Pressure of all those hunters and dates are sending more elk to private or tribal lands or hard to get to areas. E-bikes are pushing the limits of where they can take those machines and are ending up in non motorized areas. I found bull elk that were killed and left to rot and not an ounce of meat were taken from these bulls. I believe two of these bulls were mistaken for cows. I also think antlerless hunts should not be the same time as the bull hunts; (at least during the rifle hunts). I would rather hunt less with more of a chance to harvest a mature bull than have to out run someone to shoot a spike! That happened to my son this year.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?** Drastically reduce or eliminate multi season any bull tags the amount of pressure is ridiculous. The quality of the muzzleloader hunt has nose dived the last 2 years make people pick.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?** Strongly agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?** The dates for Deere too early especially the limited entry late muzzleloader dates.

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?** Strongly disagree

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**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?** Strongly disagree restricting muzzleloaders without giving a reason or purpose or how or what hunts it might affect

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?** Somewhat agree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I really think we need to bite the bullet and put the multi-season general elk tags in a draw. Competition for them is going to get far worse now - rifle hunters who want two weeks to hunt instead of one will start going after them, in addition to everyone else now who already does.

I would also like the RACs/Board to consider an unlimited two-season general any bull elk tag that would allow a hunter to hunt the archery and late rifle seasons. It seems to make sense because both of those hunts are unlimited quota anyway, and it can provide a little more opportunity to those who aren't able to get the full multi-season tag.

I really like making the general archery elk tag bull-only, with additional cow tags offered during the same season. It's fair to make archery hunters spend their points on a cow tag like everyone else does in the draws.

Thanks to everyone who was involved.

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Form Name:  
Submission Time:

November 2022 RAC Proposals Feedback  
November 10, 2022 11:17 am

**Which best describes your position**      Somewhat disagree  
**regarding the proposed statewide elk**  
**management plan?**

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**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I would like to

Start out by saying thanks for all the out of the box thinking on trying to add more

Opportunity to hunters to get out and hunt elk, with the huge increase in demand to hunt it has to be hard to satisfy everyone and I think there are some good strategies in the management plan. With that being said I would like to state the things proposed in which I agree and disagree with. I like the idea of having more units available as an any bull hunt that we can buy a tag over the counter, I support the 6 new units to become general bull units, I would however like to see on all general bull units a restriction on antler points to harvest, such as 4 point or better, or a at the very least a brown tine. I have hunted elk every single year for the last 15 years. It has become increasingly more

Difficult to harvest elk on general units and I think this would help ensure that herd numbers will not dwindle.

I also like the proposed management plan to change age objective harvest on limited entry units to enable more tags and more opportunity. I like the idea of my kids being able to draw a tag before they are too old and feeble to be able to hunt limited entry hunts.

I agree with making diamond mountain a spike unit too, but with this I would also like to make a comment of saying I think the spike hunt should be it's own hunt and not overlapping a limited entry hunt. Spike hunts can be later when they are still hanging out with the herd and the big bulls have fir the most part left. This would satisfy the limited entry hunter who's waited years for his tag and the spike hunter who has a few less people ti contend with.

I like the proposed changes to the limited weapons hunts (hams) and the idea of if the units herd numbers allow it, to do late limited entry draws on gengeral units.

I also love the proposed change of having two separate seasons that are a week long each, but with this I am strongly AGAINST having no cap on tag limits for the second season. I like hunting elk and getting out and opportunity but I also like seeing elk this will decimate herd populations I think, and will definitely decrease elk on public land and increase elk on tribal and private lands where you would have even more problems, more landowners to appease and more public land hunters █████ off. I strongly disagree with making the youth any bull hunt unlimited for the same reasons stated above, I have watched over the last 15 years In the areas that I hunt, elk numbers dwindle, and it is due to increased pressure and then elk move on to private and tribal lands.

I strongly support the season date changes that are being proposed, I hunt with a bow, rifle and have been on a hams hunt and I have always been under the idea that archery hunting is for the peak rut activity not rifle hunting or any other weapon method.

Thanks for reading my comment, I hope the things I have said will be taken into consideration, I love hunting, I love taking my kids hunting, I want more opportunity but I also want the animals to continue to thrive on public lands where we can all have a chance at them. I know the division is in a tough spot trying to take each persons stance and meet somewhere in the middle

to

Make everyone happy and it is virtually impossible but please manage these animals in a respectful manner and stop making it better for landowners to get more tags and sell them for their price, hunting is becoming a rich man's sport and we need to stop it. Call land owners on their bluff, if they want more tags because animals are destroying crops then give more tags to the public to help take care of them, not to the land owner to sell them, and with that being said maybe have landowners sign somewhere on the divisions webpage their contact info to be able to hunt land if they have problems with wildlife. I have drawn antlerless tags and no landowner will let you hunt their land, my daughter drew antlerless tags and we had [REDACTED] finding someone to let her hunt, it's crap!!

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**      Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**      Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the CWMU and LOA recommendations?**      Neither agree nor disagree

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I appreciate the time and energy put forth by the Division of Wildlife Resources, committees and Region Advisory Councils to accommodate hunters desires and supporting wildlife. Here are my comments:

- I support the change of the proposed limited-entry units to general season units. This change will open additional habitat for all elk hunters to enjoy and reduce hunter congestion.
- I support the new age class objectives. I support more hunting opportunity over significant age class objectives (7+ years). I assume that this change will increase the number of tags available on limited-entry units.
- I strongly support continuing to offer a multi-season tag. The multi-season tags do not increase the number of hunters on the landscape during the Any Legal Weapon (rifle) season because the tags come from the Any Legal Weapon tags. One benefit of the multi-season tag is that many hunters that typically only archery hunt now purchase centerfire rifles, muzzleloader rifles, ammunition, and other equipment that increases taxes that can be used for our wildlife. Another benefit is that the multi-season tag allows a hunter to be flexible when they can hunt due to personal circumstances, weather conditions, and other uncontrolled issues. Finally, I recommend keeping the multi-season hunt to include both the mid and late seasons because this will reduce congestion by spreading the hunt out over several days.
- Too many hunters are focused on harvesting world class bull elk. Social media has significantly increased this focus. Focusing on world class bull elk has led to too many hunters building up way to many points to hunt a premier unit (Boulder, etc.) and thus making point creep a significant issue. I ask the Division of Wildlife Resources to consider capping the number of points a hunter can obtain to encourage hunters to start using their points on other limit-entry units instead of holding onto them for premier units.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Strongly agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

- Strongly support the General Season Archery end date extension to 9/19 in 2023 and an extension in future years to allow archery hunters an improved chance to hunt the elk rut. Archery success percentage is around 11%, so allowing archers to hunt more into the rut will likely improve success.

- The limited-entry muzzleloader season in 2023 is 9/25 - 10/6 which falls between all other limited-entry hunts. Why not do the same for general season muzzleloader and have the season run from 9/25-10/6 which is in the middle of all the general season dates?

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**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed statewide elk management plan?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about the elk management plan?**

I like that the DWR is trying to create more opportunities, but at what cost? Success is a big thing on hunters and next generation hunters wanting to continue to hunt. Put units in the general season elk hunt with tag limits in each unit. The DWR seem to care more about creating opportunities with low success rate, (to generate more revenue) rather than a good hunting experience with higher success rates. Ps I'm not a road hunter. I put on many miles every year hunting and the elk hunting in Utah seems to be lacking good hunting experience.

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposals for the 2023–24 once-in-a-lifetime hunts?**

Strongly agree

**Which best describes your position regarding the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

Neither agree nor disagree

**Do you have any additional comments about the proposed hunting seasons and dates?**

I would like to see archery elk dates changed to September 1st- 30th the youth hunt not over lapping the archery hunt and possibly breaking up more dates like Colorado does. Do small 5 day hunts. 1st rifle, 2nd rifle, and 3rd with early and late muzzleloader for both elk and deer. Also we need a 3 point or bigger for the deer hunts letting only the youth have no restrictions on antler size.

**Which best describes your position regarding the Technology Committee's recommendations?**

Somewhat agree

**Do you have any additional comments about these recommendations?**

I agree with most technology restrictions and weapon restricted units. I don't agree on banning two way radios and cell phones to help in the success of hunting. They can be just as much of a hinderance as helpful in the success of hunting. They also help guiding people into animals that they have not made the best shot on an animal. Some of these rules put into are hard to regulate and ruin hunting for the ones following them. Don't ban technology that helps hunters succeed.